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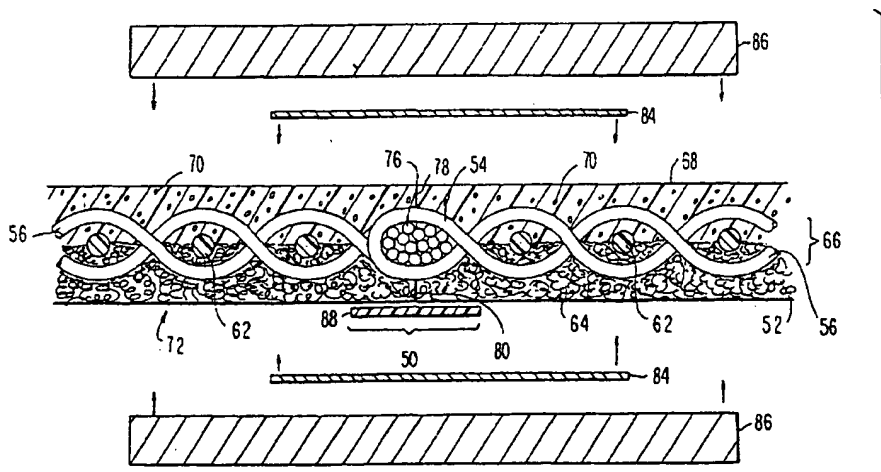
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(54) Method of seam closure for sheet transfer and other paper processing belts

(57) A loop-and-pintle seam in a paper-processing belt (72) having a polymeric-resin coating (68) is closed by covering the seam on the uncoated side with an encapsulating material, so that the seam area (50) has compression properties substantially identical to those of the remainder of the belt. After installing the belt (72) and closing the pin seam with a pintle (76), the seam

region (50) is impregnated on the non-paper side with a viscous paste comprising a polymeric-resin material and a blowing agent. The paste is heated to create a foam that fills the voids in the seam region (50) and the slit (78) in the coating (68), before being cured. Alternatively, a solid foam strip (88) of a polymeric resin may be glued to the seam region (50). The belt may be used as a transfer or long-nip-press (LNP) belt.

FIG. 7



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	WO 93 17161 A (SCANDIAFELT AB)	1,3,13, 15-18, 20,21, 25-27	D21F1/00 D21F7/10
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A	AT 388 574 A (HUYCK AUSTRIA GESELLSCHAFT)		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			D21F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 20 March 1997	Examiner De Rijck, F
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